

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: YOSHIDA et al.
Serial No.: 09/416,959
Filed: October 13, 1999
For: SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE
AND PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME
Group: 2812
Examiner: R. Pompey



9/416,959
1/9/02
V. Vannael

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 18, 2001

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the filing of the CPA papers.

The document listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language. In addition, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by the following remarks. In particular, the invention defined by newly submitted claims

18-41 differs from that of USP 5,519,237 (hereinafter, the Itoh Patent) in several regards. For example, a number of claims define that conductor plugs are connected to conductive strips which effectively serve as wiring connecting to semiconductor regions (e.g., independent claims 18, 22 and claim 32). The Itoh Patent, on the other hands, merely shows a conductor plug connected to a capacitor electrode in a memory array. Other claims, such as independent claim 26, are presented which define forming a conductor plug on both a source and a drain region. In Itoh, on the other hand, the conductor plug is connected to only one of the source and drain regions of a MISFET in a memory array. In addition, independent claim 37 defines that a first conductive strip is connected to one of a source and drain region through a first conductor plug and a second conductive strip is connected to the other of the source and drain region through both a first and a second conductor plug. This feature is completely lacking from the Itoh Patent. Accordingly, for these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that newly submitted claims 18-41 clearly define over the Itoh Patent.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.35437CV2) please credit

any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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